



VFC PROGRAM ALERT #3

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TO: Vaccine Manager, VFC Agreement Signatory, Clinic Manager
FROM: Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program, Public Health-Seattle & King County
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FLU SEASON GETS UNDERWAY

The 2012-2013 Influenza Vaccine Request form is page 2 of this broadcast fax/email. Providers may begin placing orders immediately. Please keep the following points in mind:

- **Read the Flu Vaccine Request form** for guidance on using each of the four presentations.
- **Not all flu vaccine presentations may be immediately available** for shipping. Any requests we cannot fulfill at the time of your order will be held until the product becomes available.
- **Do not submit a request for the entire flu season.** Request only the number of doses needed for an initial shipment of flu vaccine. No supply issues are expected this season.
- **Submit new requests** for shipments #2, #3, and so on, as needed (every 2-4 weeks depending on clinic size, scheduling, and vaccine storage capacity).
- **Flu vaccine shipments can be ordered at any time;** they are not subject to the EOQ calendar.
- If you place a flu vaccine order online in the Immunization Registry, **you must also submit a paper Flu Vaccine Request form** (not a printout of the Immunization Registry screen). This extra step is to assure your order is not lost due to input error or software “bugs.”
- **“Doses Used” and “Doses On Hand” are a required part of each flu vaccine order.**
- Be sure to **use the 2012-2013 request form**; outdated request forms cannot be processed.
- **Plan/schedule special “flu clinics” after your flu vaccine is delivered.** Confirmation faxes will be sent.
- This broadcast fax and the Flu Vaccine Request form will be posted on our Web site at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/communicable/immunization/vfc.aspx>.

The 2012-2013 Vaccine Information Statements for both live virus and inactivated flu vaccine are available now at www.immunize.org/vis. ACIP recommendations and dosing schedules are unchanged from last year.

